IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Canceled)

2. (Currently amended) A method of creating a new partition ~~as recited in claim 1,~~ including:

> initially allocating initially available sectors in a designated new partition area of a source partition to the new partition; and

> subsequently allocating additional sectors in the designated new partition area of the source partition to the new partition that have subsequently become available; wherein subsequently allocating includes periodically checking when sectors in the designated new partition area become available.

3. (Currently amended) A method of creating a new partition as ~~recited in claim 1,~~ including:

> initially allocating initially available sectors in a designated new partition area of a source partition to the new partition; and

> subsequently allocating additional sectors in the designated new partition area of the source partition to the new partition that have subsequently become available; wherein subsequently allocating includes checking when sectors in the designated new partition area become available when a file closes.

4. (Canceled)

5.   (Currently amended) A method of creating a new partition as recited in claim [[1]] 2, further including temporarily allocating sectors outside the designated new partition area to substitute for unavailable sectors in the designated new partition area.

6.   (Currently amended) A method of creating a new partition as recited in claim [[1]] 2, wherein initially allocating includes temporarily allocating sectors outside the designated new partition area to substitute for unavailable sectors in the designated new partition area.

7.   (Currently amended) A method of creating a new partition as recited in claim [[1]] 2, wherein subsequently allocating includes temporarily allocating sectors outside the designated new partition area to substitute for unavailable sectors in the designated new partition area.

8.   (Currently amended) A method of creating a new partition as recited in claim [[1]] 2, wherein some sectors in the designated partition area are not allocated initially because they are unavailable and subsequently allocating includes temporarily allocating sectors outside the designated new partition area to substitute for unavailable sectors in the designated new partition area.

9.   (Currently amended) A method of creating a new partition as recited in claim [[1]] 2, further including a new partition allocation process and a new partition simulation process.

10.   (Currently amended) A method of creating a new partition as recited in claim 1, further including:

        initially allocating initially available sectors in a designated new partition area of a source partition to the new partition; and

        subsequently allocating additional sectors in the designated new partition area of the source partition to the new partition that have subsequently become available; and

        a new partition simulation process and a new partition allocation process, wherein the new partition simulation process includes:

        receiving a virtual partition file system request;

translating the request to an offset in the virtual partition file;

sending the request to the source partition file system; and

processing of the request by the source partition file system.

11.   (Currently amended) A method of creating a new partition as recited in claim [[1]] 2, further including a new partition simulation process and a new partition allocation process, wherein the new partition simulation process includes:

receiving a virtual partition file system request;

translating the request to an offset in the virtual partition file;

sending the request to the source partition file system; and

processing of the request by the source partition file system.

wherein the request is for a read or write operation.

12.   (Currently amended) A method of creating a new partition as recited in claim [[1]] 2, further including a new partition simulation process and a new partition allocation process, wherein the new partition simulation process includes:

receiving a virtual partition file system request;

consulting a shadow file for sectors related to the request;

translating the request to an offset in the shadow file;

sending the request to the source partition file system; and

processing of the request by the source partition file system.

13.   (Currently amended) A method of creating a new partition as recited in claim [[1]] 2, further including a new partition simulation process and a new partition allocation process, wherein the new partition simulation process includes:

receiving a virtual partition file system request;

allocating a sector to a shadow file;

sending the request to the source partition file system; and

processing of the request by the source partition file system.

14. (Currently amended) A method of creating a new partition as recited in claim [[1]] 2, wherein the new partition includes additional free space to the right of the source partition.

15. (Currently amended) A method of creating a new partition as recited in claim [[1]] 2, further including:

obtaining exclusive access to the source partition;

relocating remaining sectors from [[the]] a designated truncated partition area to the designated new partition area; and

releasing exclusive access to the source partition.

16. (Currently amended) A method of creating a new partition as recited in claim [[1]] 2, further including realizing the new partition.

17. (Currently amended) A system for creating a new partition, including a block device driver configured to:

initially allocate initially available sectors in a designated new partition area of a source partition to the new partition; and

subsequently allocate additional sectors in the designated new partition area of the source partition to the new partition that have subsequently become available; wherein subsequently allocating includes periodically checking when sectors in the designated new partition area become available.

18. (Currently amended) A computer program product for modifying an audio signal, the computer program product being embodied in a computer readable medium and comprising computer instructions for:

initially allocating initially available sectors in a designated new partition area of a source partition to the new partition; and

subsequently allocating additional sectors in the designated new partition area of the source partition to the new partition that have subsequently become available; wherein subsequently allocating includes periodically checking when sectors in the designated new partition area become available.

19.   (New) A method of creating a new partition as recited in claim 2, wherein subsequently allocating includes checking when sectors in the designated new partition area become available when a file closes.

20.   (New) A method of creating a new partition as recited in claim 2, further including a new partition simulation process and a new partition allocation process, wherein the new partition simulation process includes:

receiving a virtual partition file system request;

translating the request to an offset in the virtual partition file;

sending the request to the source partition file system; and

processing of the request by the source partition file system.

21.   (New) A method of creating a new partition as recited in claim 3, wherein subsequently allocating includes periodically checking when sectors in the designated new partition area become available.

22.   (New) A method of creating a new partition as recited in claim 3, further including temporarily allocating sectors outside the designated new partition area to substitute for unavailable sectors in the designated new partition area.

23.   (New) A method of creating a new partition as recited in claim 3, wherein initially allocating includes temporarily allocating sectors outside the designated new partition area to substitute for unavailable sectors in the designated new partition area.

24.   (New) A method of creating a new partition as recited in claim 3, wherein subsequently allocating includes temporarily allocating sectors outside the designated new partition area to substitute for unavailable sectors in the designated new partition area.

25.   (New) A method of creating a new partition as recited in claim 3, wherein some sectors in the designated partition area are not allocated initially because they are unavailable and subsequently allocating includes temporarily allocating sectors outside the designated new partition area to substitute for unavailable sectors in the designated new partition area.

26.   (New) A method of creating a new partition as recited in claim 3, further including a new partition allocation process and a new partition simulation process.

27.   (New) A method of creating a new partition as recited in claim 3, further including a new partition simulation process and a new partition allocation process, wherein the new partition simulation process includes:

receiving a virtual partition file system request;

translating the request to an offset in the virtual partition file;

sending the request to the source partition file system; and

processing of the request by the source partition file system.

28.   (New) A method of creating a new partition as recited in claim 3, further including a new partition simulation process and a new partition allocation process, wherein the new partition simulation process includes:

receiving a virtual partition file system request;

translating the request to an offset in the virtual partition file;

sending the request to the source partition file system; and

processing of the request by the source partition file system.

wherein the request is for a read or write operation.

29.   (New) A method of creating a new partition as recited in claim 3, further including a new

partition simulation process and a new partition allocation process, wherein the new partition

simulation process includes:

receiving a virtual partition file system request;

consulting a shadow file for sectors related to the request;

translating the request to an offset in the shadow file;

sending the request to the source partition file system; and

processing of the request by the source partition file system.

30.   (New) A method of creating a new partition as recited in claim 3, further including a new

partition simulation process and a new partition allocation process, wherein the new partition

simulation process includes:

receiving a virtual partition file system request;

allocating a sector to a shadow file;

sending the request to the source partition file system; and

processing of the request by the source partition file system.

31.   (New) A method of creating a new partition as recited in claim 3, wherein the new

partition includes additional free space to the right of the source partition.

32.   (New) A method of creating a new partition as recited in claim 3, further including:

obtaining exclusive access to the source partition;

relocating remaining sectors from a designated truncated partition area to the designated

new partition area; and

releasing exclusive access to the source partition.

33.   (New) A method of creating a new partition as recited in claim 3, further including realizing the new partition.

34.   (New) A computer program product for modifying an audio signal, the computer program product being embodied in a computer readable medium and comprising computer instructions for:

initially allocating initially available sectors in a designated new partition area of a source partition to the new partition; and

subsequently allocating additional sectors in the designated new partition area of the source partition to the new partition that have subsequently become available; wherein subsequently allocating includes checking when sectors in the designated new partition area become available when a file closes.

35.   (New) A method of creating a new partition as recited in claim 10, wherein subsequently allocating includes periodically checking when sectors in the designated new partition area become available.

36.   (New) A method of creating a new partition as recited in claim 10, wherein subsequently allocating includes checking when sectors in the designated new partition area become available when a file closes.

37.   (New) A method of creating a new partition as recited in claim 10, further including temporarily allocating sectors outside the designated new partition area to substitute for unavailable sectors in the designated new partition area.

38.   (New) A method of creating a new partition as recited in claim 10, wherein initially allocating includes temporarily allocating sectors outside the designated new partition area to substitute for unavailable sectors in the designated new partition area.

39. (New) A method of creating a new partition as recited in claim 10, wherein subsequently allocating includes temporarily allocating sectors outside the designated new partition area to substitute for unavailable sectors in the designated new partition area.

40. (New) A method of creating a new partition as recited in claim 10, wherein some sectors in the designated partition area are not allocated initially because they are unavailable and subsequently allocating includes temporarily allocating sectors outside the designated new partition area to substitute for unavailable sectors in the designated new partition area.

41. (New) A method of creating a new partition as recited in claim 10, further including a new partition allocation process and a new partition simulation process.

42. (New) A method of creating a new partition as recited in claim 10, further including a new partition simulation process and a new partition allocation process, wherein the new partition simulation process includes:

receiving a virtual partition file system request;

translating the request to an offset in the virtual partition file;

sending the request to the source partition file system; and

processing of the request by the source partition file system.

wherein the request is for a read or write operation.

43. (New) A method of creating a new partition as recited in claim 10, further including a new partition simulation process and a new partition allocation process, wherein the new partition simulation process includes:

receiving a virtual partition file system request;

consulting a shadow file for sectors related to the request;

translating the request to an offset in the shadow file;

sending the request to the source partition file system; and

processing of the request by the source partition file system.

44.   (New) A method of creating a new partition as recited in claim 10, further including a new partition simulation process and a new partition allocation process, wherein the new partition simulation process includes:

receiving a virtual partition file system request;

allocating a sector to a shadow file;

sending the request to the source partition file system; and

processing of the request by the source partition file system.

45.   (New) A method of creating a new partition as recited in claim 10, wherein the new partition includes additional free space to the right of the source partition.

46.   (New) A method of creating a new partition as recited in claim 10, further including:

obtaining exclusive access to the source partition;

relocating remaining sectors from a designated truncated partition area to the designated new partition area; and

releasing exclusive access to the source partition.

47.   (New) A method of creating a new partition as recited in claim 10, further including realizing the new partition.

48.   (New) A computer program product for modifying an audio signal, the computer program product being embodied in a computer readable medium and comprising computer instructions for:

initially allocating initially available sectors in a designated new partition area of a source partition to the new partition;

subsequently allocating additional sectors in the designated new partition area of the source partition to the new partition that have subsequently become available; and

a new partition simulation process and a new partition allocation process, wherein the

new partition simulation process includes:

receiving a virtual partition file system request;

translating the request to an offset in the virtual partition file;

sending the request to the source partition file system; and

processing of the request by the source partition file system.